

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 MC-02 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 EUR-12

TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00 SAB-01 (ISO) W

----- 113147

R 201255Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6737

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BERRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XF, US, IS

SUBJECT: FONMIN ALLON ADDRESSES KNESSET ON US ARMS SUPPLY
TO JORDAN AND JORDANIAN ARMY MOVEMENTS

1. SUMMARY: FONMIN ALLON TOLD KNESSET MAY 19 OF ISRAEL'S
CONCERN OVER US-JORDAN ARMS DEAL AND ITS POSSIBLY
SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS. HE ALSO NOTED RECENT REPORTS
ON JORDANIAN ARMY MOVEMENTS AND WARNED JORDANIAN
LEADERS OF DANGERS. END SUMMARY.

2. REPLYING TO TWO URGENT MOTIONS FOR THE AGENDA
BY LIKUD AND INDEPENDENT LIBERAL PARTY, KNESSET MEMBER, FONMIN
ALLON MAY 19 SAID THAT ISRAEL EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN AS WELL
AS RESERVATION AND OPPOSITION TO US DECISION TO CONCLUDE ARMS
DEAL WITH JORDAN " IN VIEW OF ITS TIMING."

3. ALLON ADDED THAT DURING THE PERIOD OF US
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POLICY IN THE MID EAST US ANNOUNCED A SUSPENSION

OF A "ALL NEW ARMS ACQUISITION DEALS INCLUDING THE SUPPLY OF A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ITEMS FOR ISRAEL FOR WHICH HIGH LEVEL APPROVAL HAD ALREADY BEEN OBTAINED... GOI IS ENTITLED TO EXPECT THAT, WHILE THE US IS SUSPENDING ITS ACQUISITION REQUESTS, IT WOULD DO THE SAME WITH RESPECT TO JORDAN--JUST AS WE MIGHT EXPECT THAT WHILE THE USG SEES FIT TO POSTPONE THE VISIT OF THE MINDEF--A VISIT THAT HAD ALREADY BEEN MUTUALLY AGREED UPON AND COORDINATED-- IT MIGHT REFRAIN FROM HOLDING DISCUSSIONS ON SUBJECTS RELATED TO DEFENSE WITH OUR EASTERN NEIGHBOR--NOT TO SPEAK OF SAUDI-ARABIA."

4. CONCLUDING HIS REMARKS ON THE ARMS DEAL ALLON SAID THAT "THERE IS A DEFINITE DANGER THAT THE SUBSTANCE, TIMING AND BACKGROUND OF THE US-JORDAN ARMS DEAL (NOT TO MENTION THE US-SAUDI ARABIA DEALS) WILL SERVE AS AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO EXTREMIST FACTORS IN THE ARAB WORLD-- THIS IN COMPLETE CONTRADICTION TO THE PEACEFUL EFFORTS AND ASPIRATIONS THAT ARE COMMON TO THE US AND ISRAEL...."

5. TURNING TO "RECENT EVENTS" IN JORDAN ALLON NOTED THAT " OF LATE, HARSH STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN COMING FROM AUTHORIZED SPOKESMEN AS WELL AS THROUGH JORDANIAN MEDIA. SIMULTANEOUSLY, THERE HAVE BEEN RELIABLE REPORTS RE UNUSUAL MOVEMENTS IN THE JORDANIAN ARMY ALONG THE FRONTIER WITH ISRAEL AND PLANS FOR JORDANIAN-SYRIAN MILITARY COOPERATION...WE ARE OF COURSE ALERT TO IT AND ARE DOING WHATEVER IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO MEET ANY EVENTUALITY..." ALLON WARNED THE LEADERS OF JORDAN FROM "DANGERS WHICH MAY RESULT FROM THESE STEPS..."

6. LIKUD KNESSET MEMBER YEDIDIA BE'ERI CRITICIZED USG FOR FAILING TO CONSULT WITH ISRAEL OVER THE SUPPLY DECISION BEFORE HAND, AND FOR FAILING TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INFORM ISRAEL AFTER THE DECISION WAS TAKEN. HE ADVOCATED THE RETENTION OF JUDEA AND SAMARIA WHEN SUCH MODERN WEAPONRY INCREASES THE THREATS AGAINST ISRAEL'S CITIES. HE ADDED THAT SUCH SUPPLIES ONLY MADE IT MORE LOGICAL FOR ISRAEL TO CONSIDER A PRE-EMPTIVE STRIKE POLICY.

7. ILP MK YEHUDA SHA'ARI WARNED THAT THE ARAB

STATES MIGHT WELL BE TEMPTED INTO EXTREMIST
ADVENTURES BY THE FLOW OF US ARMS TO THEM-- AT
A TIME WHEN THE PRESENT CRISIS IS IEAREL-US
RELATIONS SEEMED WORTH EXPLOTING.
VELIOTES

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